



Weekly Newsletter 2025-6

Dear Parents & Families,

Well, they say lightning never strikes twice... but in our case, it can strike three times! I am sure all of you who witnessed the recent storm have never experienced anything quite like that before. It was certainly an eventful few days for our school community. Fortunately, *all's well that ends well*. I am very pleased to report that the school site is now fully back up and running, and our infrastructure has been completely restored.



As the weather returns to more normal temperatures, we look forward to returning to our regular routines and normal school days for these final few weeks of the term.

I would like to extend my gratitude and thanks to our brilliant site and support team, who remained on site to repair the damage and coordinate the clear-up. These individuals are often the unsung heroes of our school, but their work and support is absolutely invaluable. Thank you also to every parent and family who reached out to offer support, along with your encouragement of students to complete online learning over the past few days. Finally, well done to our students for continuing to work remotely; it was great to welcome you back today!

Contained in this newsletter are updates regarding the residential trip, enrichment days, and guidance on dress code and uniform for the week ahead. Please do take a look at these. Also, look out for information next week on the implementation of phone pouches and the details of Sports Day on Friday 10th July.

Thank you for your ongoing partnership and support. Have a good weekend!

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Bill', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.



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Key Dates

Sunday 28th- Tuesday 30th June- DfE Silver Expedition

Monday 29th June- Year 10 D&T NEA Project Launch day

Monday 6th July- Celebration Carnival

Monday 6th July- SEND Coffee Morning

Thursday 9th July- Year 11 Celebration Assembly & Prom

Friday 10th July- School Sports Day

Important Information

Warm Weather Uniform Update

Having reviewed the weather forecast for the next week it now appears that temperatures will return to more sensible levels. The initial forecast indicates that daily temperatures will range between 22 to 24 degrees and for this reason we will continue to adjust uniform arrangements to support the comfort of the students.

Students are expected to adhere to the following:

Blazers are optional.

Ties must be worn.

Students are encouraged to remove their V-neck sweaters (these remain optional).

Shirts must stay tucked in at all times.

Knee-length tailored shorts or pleated skirts are allowed. Please ensure skirts are worn at this appropriate length.

Formal black shoes and plain dark socks are still required.



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To assist students during the peak heat of the afternoon, we will implement a relaxed dress code on warmer days beginning Period 3. From this point forward, students are permitted to take off their ties and are not required to put them back on for the remainder of the school day.

Staying Comfortable & Hydrated

We also recommend the following over the next few weeks:

- Send your child with a full water bottle every day to help them stay hydrated.
- Consider having them bring a sensible hat to protect them from the sun during breaks.
- Please ensure your child applies sunscreen if they'll be outside for extended periods, like during PE lessons
- Short-sleeve shirts can be a cooler choice.

Please be advised that this is a temporary arrangement that will be reviewed at the end of next week.

Parking Reminder

A polite reminder to parents and families who collect their child at the end of each day to be mindful of our neighbours. Please avoid parking in front of driveways and in permit spaces.



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Dear Parent/Carer

Re: PGL Osmington Bay Summer Camp

Following my recent brief email, I am writing to invite you to a parents' meeting about the forthcoming PGL Summer Camp Trip. The meeting will be held on **Wednesday 1st July from 6.00 – 6.30 pm** in the drama studio. I will go through the itinerary, activities, kit list and answer any queries you have.

Activities that are on our list include Archery Tag, Giant Swing, Giant Stand Up Paddleboarding, Climbing, Rifles, Disc Golf, Aeroball and Zipwire. If you wish to look at any of these activities, please click [here](#) and select an activity from the list.

Accommodation is in groups of 3 and 4, so I would suggest that your son/daughter starts to think about who they would like to share a room with, so we can start to work on these logistics. Staff on the trip will have a final veto on this and students may need to change rooms if behaviour requires.

I am aware that Mrs Potter has already shared a kit list with you - this will be available at the meeting if you require another copy.

At the meeting, you will be asked to sign two forms: A parental consent form giving permission for us to administer any immediate first aid, understand dietary requirements and permission re photographs and also a code of conduct form. These forms need to be completed before we can take your son/daughter on the trip.

I look forward to seeing you and your son/daughter at the meeting.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'K Haden'.

Ms K Haden
Deputy Head



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Enrichment Activities Equipment 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach the end of the academic year, we are very excited for our upcoming days of enrichment activities and trips taking place on Tuesday 14th and Wednesday 15th July. These dedicated days are a vital part of our commitment to broadening our students' horizons, offering cultural capital and experiential learning opportunities that extend far beyond the classroom.

As these activities range from immersive cultural excursions to dynamic team-building projects, the equipment, clothing, and kit required will vary depending on the specific experience your child is participating in. To ensure everyone is fully prepared to engage with these enriching opportunities comfortably and safely, we have outlined the required items for each activity below.

To make sure your child stays safe, comfortable, and hydrated during a full day outdoors, whether they are on school site or elsewhere, please ensure they bring the following items:

- **Sun Protection:** A high-factor sunscreen (applied before arrival and brought along to reapply), a sun hat or cap, and sunglasses.
- **Hydration:** A large, refillable water bottle (chilled or frozen water is highly recommended; there will be water stations available to top up throughout the day).
- **Comfortable Footwear:** Sturdy, broken-in trainers or walking shoes suitable for a long day of walking and exploring, often for several hours (please note flip-flops or sliders are not acceptable).
- **Cool, Appropriate Clothing:** Lightweight, breathable clothing adhering to the school's non-uniform guidelines.
- **Healthy & Nutritious Packed Lunch:** A substantial, balanced lunch and snacks to keep their energy levels up throughout each day. We strongly recommend including slow-release carbohydrates (like wholemeal sandwiches, wraps, or pasta salads), lean protein, and plenty of fresh fruit or vegetable sticks. *Please avoid sugary snacks and energy drinks, as these can lead to dehydration and quick energy crashes in the heat.*



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Please note: students in receipt of free school meals will continue to be provided with a lunch across each of the days to take with them or access in school.

Keep it Cool: As there will be no refrigeration available, please pack the lunch in a cooler bag with an ice pack to ensure it stays fresh and safe to eat by lunchtime.

For more specific guidance related to equipment for certain activities, please review the letter sent home today or visit our letters section on the website.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rich', is located below the 'Best wishes,' text.

Mrs A Richards
Assistant Headteacher for Teaching & Learning

Celebration Carnival

**MOMENTS
MATTER,
ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.**

**ON
TRACK**



St Dunstan's School
GLASTONBURY

★ CELEBRATION ★ CARNIVAL

Join the fun on 6th July!



**BUBBLE FOOTBALL - ARCHERY TAG - BONKERS GAMES TEAM
CHALLENGES - INFLATABLE AXE THROWING - BASKETBALL AND
FOOTBALL DARTS – INFLATABLE CURLING - INFLATABLE CRAZY
GOLF - INFLATABLE PENALTY SHOOT OUT - NERF WARS -
GOGGLE FOOTBALL TEAM CHALLENGES - GLOW DODGEBALL**



**ALL STUDENTS WHO MEET OUR ATTENDANCE AND 'ON TRACK'
POINTS TARGETS WILL BE INVITED!
100 INVITES GOING OUT BY 19TH JUNE
100 MORE INVITES GOING OUT NEXT WEEK
WILL IT BE YOU?**

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Kindness



Attendance Update

Band	Percentage	Number of days attended this year to date	Potential Days of Absence across the year if this continues	Potential hours of lost learning	Classification
1	100%	165	0	0	Exceptional
2	98% to 100%	162	4	20	Strong Standard
3	96% to 98%	159	8	40	Expected Standard
4	93% to 96%	155	14	70	Needs Attention
5	90% to 93%	151	38	190	Urgent Improvement
6	Below 90%	150	40	200	Critical Action

A Week of Disruption, A Reminder of What Matters

Well that was an odd week! Losing three days of learning and time together, was not what we expected or had planned for. We had not expected the spectacular and rather frightening storm that caused significant damage and lost us a day at school. We then needed to cope with the exceptionally high temperatures meaning that we had to close for a further two days to ensure the safety and wellbeing of our students and staff. This did, however, give the school some time to dry out and the caretakers time to get everything back to normal.

Whilst these circumstances have been entirely beyond anyone's control, they do serve as a timely reminder of the importance of attendance whenever school is open. Every lesson matters, and every day in school provides valuable learning opportunities, social interaction, and support that simply cannot be fully replicated elsewhere. As we approach the end of the academic year, maintaining strong attendance remains as important as ever.

The weather has also affected some of our planned events. After careful consideration, we have taken the decision to cancel the Friday



Attendance Update

Summer Games event. We know students were looking forward to it, but with temperatures remaining extremely high, we do not want students spending their lunchtime running around and becoming increasingly overheated. Student safety must always come first. We will carry the water relay over to next Friday.

Looking ahead to our Summer Event, excitement continues to build. I was delighted to hand out the first 100 invitations recently and had planned to distribute the next 100 invitations on Tuesday. However, the storm had other ideas and prevented us from being together in school. As a result, those invitations will be handed out this coming Monday, when all our students are back in school.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support, flexibility and understanding during what has been a truly unusual week. We look forward to welcoming everyone back together and finishing the year strongly.

***SIGN UP ON MONDAY
PARTICIPATE ON FRIDAY***



Get ready for outrageous fun, laughter and unforgettable Summer Games action at St Dunstan's School Glastonbury!

Activities include favourites such as the Egg and Spoon Race, Wind-Up Toy Race, Hobby Horse Challenge, Blindfolded Penalty Shootout, Welly Wanging, Penguin Waddle Race, Water-Cup Carry Relay, Dance Freeze Competition and others.

Whether you're competing, cheering friends on or simply soaking up the atmosphere, there is something for everyone to enjoy.

Team spirit, creativity, belonging and pure summer fun.



Summer Game Fridays

Last week we had a fantastic Summer Games lunchtime session, with plenty of students making Mr Balkwill work hard.

A total of 54 students and staff took part in the Blindfolded Penalty Challenge , but beating the goalkeeper proved incredibly difficult... Only one member of staff and two students managed to find the back of the net!

A huge congratulations to Jess and Eyed, who successfully got their shots past Mr Balkwill!

The challenge created a fantastic atmosphere around the school, with lots of laughter, encouragement and healthy competition. Events like these are a great reminder that school is about more than lessons – they help build belonging, confidence and positive relationships across our school community. Well done to everyone who took part!



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**CONGRATULATIONS
STUDENTS!**



**421,481`
POINTS ACHIEVED**

SINCE SEPTEMBER

**How high can the total reach before the
academic year concludes?**



School Production

Auditions for Matilda have been rearranged to Tuesday 30th June after school.

We look forward to seeing students singing and acting in order for us to cast the main roles. Who will be our menacing Trunchball, clever Matilda and greedy Bruce Bogtrotter?



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Normandy Trip

Year 7 have set off on their grand French adventure this weekend and we hope they have an amazing time, seeing the sights and practicing their French!

We will have more about the trip in next week's newsletter, but if you want to stay up to date over the weekend, keep an eye on our Facebook page as there will be more updates posted there as we hear about their adventures.

Bon Voyage Year 7!



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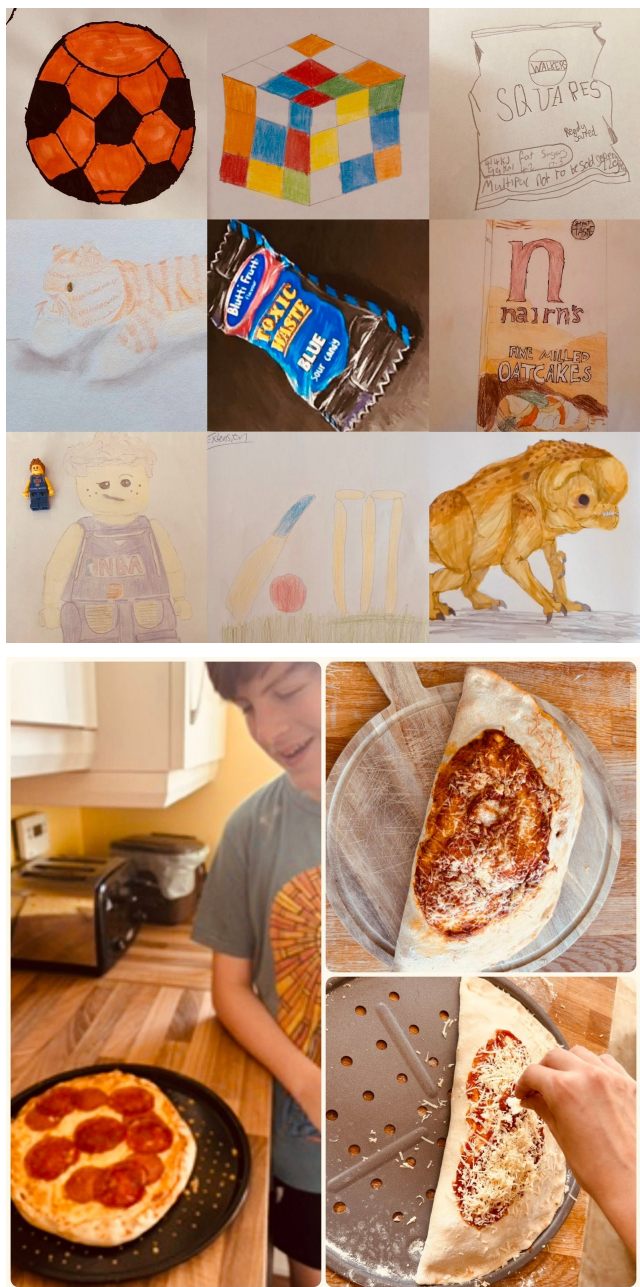
Community

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Home Learning

We have been impressed by our students' home learning during this hot spell.

Art and Technology students have been practising drawing still life projects and cooking pizza and calzone!



Year 10 Geography Trip

Our Year 10 geographers enjoyed a fantastic field trip to Swanage, putting their classroom learning into practice along the coast.

Students investigated longshore drift and assessed the effectiveness of groynes using a range of fieldwork techniques. Armed with tape measures, metre rulers, satsumas and plenty of enthusiasm, they collected valuable data to support their learning for the Paper 3 Geography examination.

After a productive day of fieldwork, there was time to relax and enjoy some well-earned ice cream and chips by the seaside. Well done, Year 10!



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Cadet Assembly

On Monday, our Year 7 and 8 students enjoyed an assembly led by Captain Will Hellier from the newly reopened Glastonbury Army Cadet unit.

Students learned about the kit required to join, the wide range of activities on offer and the valuable skills that can be developed through the cadets.

A big thank you to Captain Will Hellier for taking the time to visit.



Year 8 Science

Our Year 8 students are deep in research mode — working in editorial groups, each digging into their own aspect of the theme of microbes and disease.

Vaccines , killer epidemics , the hidden world of bacteria — every student has a different story to tell.

They're starting the old-fashioned way — and the photos say it all. Textbooks open, highlighters out, notes everywhere...

And honestly? It's been brilliant to watch. Students are going straight to the serious sources — WHO reports, NHS guidance, CDC data — and the level of scientific understanding they're showing is something to be proud of. Their science teacher certainly is.

There may well be a finished magazine at the end of it all. Watch this space.



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Gardening

Another busy week in the beautiful school gardens!

Students have been busy planting marvellous marigold and perfectly placed poppies around the school to bring joy to others.

The sun has been shining and the students have reaped the rewards, enjoying yummy strawberries, broad beans and sweet peas which just keep coming!

We have been filling the school with sweet peas this week so that everyone can enjoy their beautiful fragrance



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Bronze Practice DofE Complete!



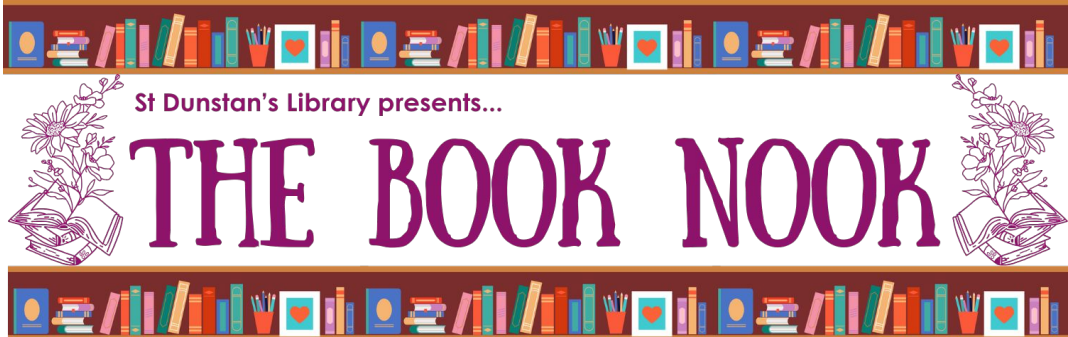
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Loan Recalling and First News Summer Reading

As we approach the Summer Holidays, the Library will be **recalling all library loans ahead of the break**. Unfortunately we just don't have the resources to loan books over the summer break as we lose too many, but we wholeheartedly encourage summer reading! Please use this as an excuse to support local libraries, like Glastonbury and Street, and get a free library card and keep reading over the holidays!

We also have a link to **a free subscription to a youth online news magazine for the six week break**, thanks to the National Year of Reading. If you would like to make a free account, the link is below:

Unique Parent Link for free subscription over the summer:

[First News Free Summer Subscription Unique School Link](#)

We ask that all library loans are returned before Friday 10th July so we can ensure the library remains well-stocked for September!

If you have lost a library loan, please replace it with a second hand copy, otherwise you will be billed full price at the end of the year.

Thank you for your cooperation. Books can be returned to the library, or to reception if the library is closed (Fridays).

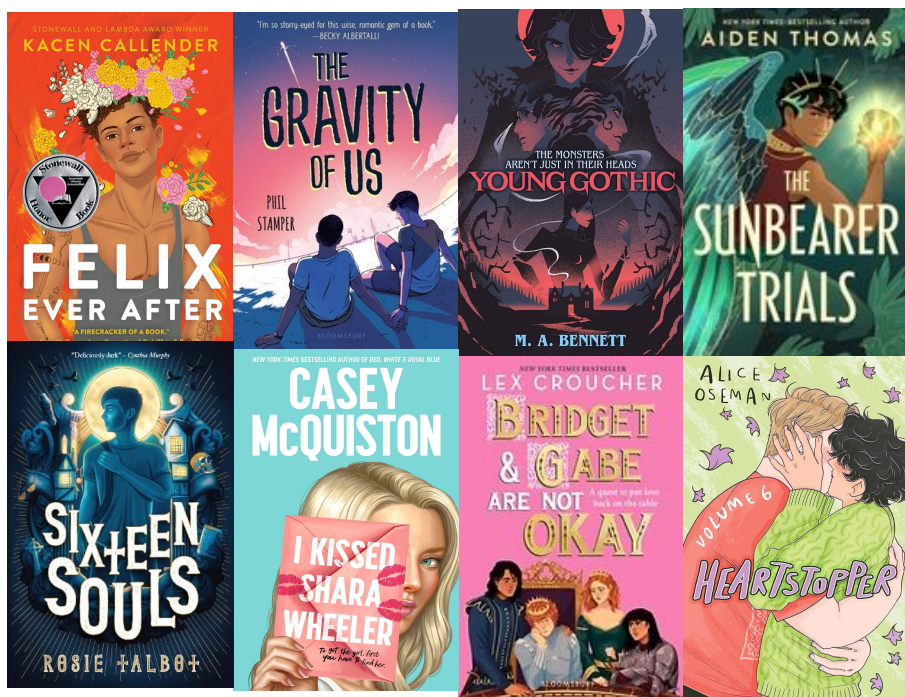
St Dunstan's Library presents...

THE BOOK NOOK

Pride Month!

June is Pride Month, a time to celebrate love in all forms, but in the library, we celebrate pride all year round. It is important to us that the library is always a welcoming and inclusive place, where everyone feels safe and supported every single day!

Check out some more of our highlighted pride books that we've got on display this week:



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Career Talks - we need you!

Parents - we need you!

We would love to enrich our assembly programme to include career talks from as many different sectors as we can. We would like you to deliver a 15 minute assembly about entry into the profession and details of what the profession includes. If you would like to be involved, please respond to this google form and we will be in touch.

Many thanks in advance for any support you can give.

[Google Form - Parent Assemblies](#)

Thank you,
St Dunstan's



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Uniform Exchange

We are keen to replenish our stocks for our uniform exchange scheme in order to support families with growing costs, as well as our environment.

We are gratefully accepting:

- Blazers, ties, and plain navy V-neck sweaters.
- Trousers, skirts, and school shoes.
- All items of PE kit.
- Revision guides and stationery equipment.

If you have any items, please drop them in to our reception at any time. We will contact you later this term with dates and times for the summer "Exchange Days" where you can source items for the next year. Please note, this is for all families to access.

Thank you for your support.

UNIFORM EXCHANGE SCHEME





CHECK YOUR EMAILS!

ENROLMENT NOW OPEN

ucscollegegroup.ac.uk

BRINGING OUT YOUR BEST

 BRIDGWATER COLLEGE

 CANNINGTON COLLEGE

 STRODE COLLEGE

 TAUNTON COLLEGE

 PART OF UCS COLLEGE GROUP



CHECK YOUR EMAILS!

ENROLMENT NOW OPEN

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